

INDEPENDENCE OF ABBY REFLECTED IN *LET ME* MOVIE 2010

DIRECTED BY MATT REEVES A FEMENIST APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

YUNI PURWASIH, A. 320 080 188 IDEPENDENCE OF ABBY REFLECTED IN *LET ME IN* MOVIE 2010 DIRECTED BY MATT REEVES A FEMINIST APPROACH. RESEARCH PAPER. MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA.2013.

*The major issue of this study is how the independence of Abby reflected in **Let Me In** movie 2010 by Matt Reeves based on a feminist perspective. The objective of this study is to analyze the movie in terms of its structural elements and to analyze the **Let Me In** movie based on the feminist perspective. The research is qualitative study. The researcher uses two data sources: primary data source and secondary data source. The secondary data are taken from several references such as articles, website about the movie, commentaries, and other about the author on feminism material to support the subject matter. The data collection method is library research by collecting both primary and secondary data. The data analysis method is descriptive qualitative analysis based on feminism approach. The results of the study show; firstly, in this **Let Me In** movie, Mat reeves wants to illustrate how women are subordinated an exploited in patriarchal society. It is based on the reality in the Abby's life that woman's rights become number two after men. On Every woman's activity, men are number one but even sometimes Abby tries to become number one because she is not a human and have the strength. Secondly, in this **Let Me In** movie, Mat reeves wants to say that women's right is not given but must be struggled for. It can be seen from Abby's condition where she always struggle to keep her relationship and also her love on Owen. Thirdly, in this **Let Me In** movie, Mat reeves wants to describe that in woman's participation that must be some balance transaction between men and women. On this movie, Abby tries to follow on every Owen's activity, this is supposes Abby are being accepted by Owen with the same behavior and activity. This movie contains many facts that are revealed by Reeves which reflect woman's position, woman's role, woman's right, and woman's participation in leading her Abby's life as a vampire. But there are no cruelty, oppression, exploitation, and violence toward woman.*

Keywords: Feminism, Independence, Let Me In

1. Background of the Study

Literary works have a close relationship with the life of human being, and the problems of life actually become an initial source of any work of art. It has generally been thought that literatures reflect author's feeling or idea is often recognized as being lived to life. Their idea often applied on their specific work in a form of literary work, it can be novel, poem, drama, or movie. One of the life problems that becomes the source of the literary works is the position of woman in a society since there are still many questions arising because of the unfair treatment toward women. In reality, women have the lower position than men, when women enter the marriage, she will have role as the wife and mother of her children. They will be hoped well for sex, having babies, cooking, and nothing else. Matt Reeves on his film entitled *Let Me In* wants to show the girl with a different point of view, where she has a special capability in a mysterious side. This girl is Abby, she is a quite and calm girl but she keeps her mysterious side to everyone. She has her own way to get close with her social life. The researcher formulates the problems, the independence of Abby reflected in *Let Me In* movie 2010 by Matt Reeves based on a feminist perspective.

The researcher is interested in analyzing the film *Let Me In* because, first the film is an adult romance movie which is arranged in a horror movie. The second, the film shows the power of girl who wants to have a loyal friend. The third, the film is based on the 2008 Swedish film *Let the Right One In* (*Låt den rätte komma in*), directed by Tomas Alfredson, and the novel of the same name by John Ajvide Lindqvist and the last reason is because the film *Let Me In* is a genre-busting triumph. Not just a horror film, but the best American horror film in the last 20 years. So, the analysis of *Let Me In* movie is INDEPENDENCE OF ABBY REFLECTED IN *LET ME IN* MOVIE 2010 BY MATT REEVES: A FEMINIST APPROACH.

The problem of this research is that "how the independence of Abby reflected in *Let Me In* movie 2010 by Matt Reeves based on a feminist perspective?"

The benefits of this study are that to enrich the literary study, particular among the students of UMS and to develop the body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on Matt Reeves' *Let Me In*.

The objectives of the study are, to analyze the movie in terms of its structural elements and to analyze the *Let Me In* movie based on the feminist perspective.

2. Research Method

a. Type of the Study.

In analyzing Matt Reeves' *Let Me In*, the researcher uses descriptive qualitative research. Descriptive qualitative research is the research employing the method of collecting, describing, classifying and analyzing the data and then drawing conclusion, which refers to research based on qualitative data taken from the movie *Let Me In* directed by Matt Reeves.

b. Type of Data and Data Sources.

The data will be classified into two categories, primary data and secondary data. The primary data will be taken from movie it self "*Let Me In*" movie by Matt Reeves, while the secondary data are taken from the other data, which have relation with the research, the underlying theory (feminism perspective) and other materials concern, to the analysis.

c. Data-collecting Method and Technique.

The method will be used by the researcher for collecting the data is library research, the techniques are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie more than just once, until the researcher gets the message offered from the movie and gets an adequate information or data to be analyzed
- b. Reading some other resources related to the movie and the theory
- c. Taking notes for the important parts both in primary and secondary sources in data cards. The note can be book or computer.
- d. Classifying the data into categories and develop them into a good unit.

d. Data- analyzing Technique.

In this research the technique that will be used to analyze the data is descriptive analysis technique. The writer will describe the structural elements of the movie with feminism approach. The collected data will be interpreted and analyzed in detail through feminism perspective in this case by showing the problems faced by the major character Abby on her life to get a loyal friend in a form of good best friendship, then drawing conclusion based on the analysis

3. Analysis

Let Me In movie is a horror movie where it creates with a beautiful dramatic plot. The director only focuses on two major characters Abby and Owen, while the writer only analyzes the feminism of Abby the one and only the girl major character. There are four kinds of women's position that the writer analyzed such as women's participation, women's right, women's role and women's position. *Let Me In* is like a dumbed down version because it is more simple than the original version of the story, the remake does manage to improve on the original in some ways.

There are scenes that really romantic and the story tell about a couple, Abby and Owen, who are trapped in a romantic aesthetic without being discontent. It is logic about their both relationship. Their relationship is getting closer when one day Abby knows that Owen is menaced in school by a trio of bullies. Owen doesn't know how to resolve the issue until Moretz urges him to hit back. He does it. And it seems to work for a while, but then it fails miserably as, in the film's climax, the bullies nearly kill him.

Abby is the female lead of the story in the American version *Let Me In*. The major character is Abby, a vampire girl that there are no political and sex enthusiasm on her. So there is not much feminism perspective that is appearing on the movie. But, there is several feminism perspectives that becomes the human characteristic especially women in America that appears in *Let Me In* movie.

In the *Let Me In* movie the major character Abby is just a kid, where there is no significant explanation related with women position. Along the history, women position was subordinated to men, but there is women's position appears on *Let Me In* movie where Owen wants to show that (girl) women are weaker than (boy) man. Here Owen does not want if Abby is getting hurt by helping him to defeat his enemy. Owen is a strange boy to begin with, and the ongoing issues at home and at school slowly push him to embrace the darker sides of life. He steals from his mother's purse, spies on the nocturnal activities of his neighbor, and plays out some very dark fantasies about what it would be like to murder the classmates who torment him. Because of that condition, Abby wants to help him. In America, women's position was under the men and it becomes their culture, from they were kid, men women position was subordinated to men.

In *Let Me In* movie, Abby becomes a close friend of Owen because in a certain situation, he begins to remove the black out tape covering the windows, causing Abby skin to crack and burn as the light shines on her leg. Her life is narrowly saved by Owen, who intervenes in order to save Abby's life.

In America, women generally have fewer participation and career opportunities than men do. They do not have equal right with man in citizenship with a reason that women are less rational. In *Let Me In* movie, the major character is just a kid, so there are no opportunities to get all the women's duty such as working, marriage, etc. But there are some characters of Abby that show about the women participation on the movie. Abby who cares and likes Owen, tries to get involve on every Owen's activity. This is to show that she also likes all of Owen's like. Abby wants to participate on every Owen's activity, she wants Owen to be proud of her and be closer with her.

Rights are something owned by every human being. Women have right to define as autonomous beings and others cannot determine them,

women have right to define as autonomous beings. There are only found two kinds of women's right in the *Let Me In* movie. Those rights are the right to become a friend and the right for being love. The major character is just a kid where there is no category of freedom in feminism including politic, economic, and sexual freedom. Abby is a vampire girl where she has no friend every time she moves to town. This time she has found one boy name Owen who has the same destiny with her. She does not want if she loses this opportunity for being a friend of human. Many kinds of ways she tries to get close with Owen like trying to ask Owen's personal identity and play Owen's game. Beside that, Abby also has the same right with Owen where she wants to get in love. She falls in love with Owen in a different ways. She shows her love by giving more cares and attentions to Owen. She falls in love with Owen in a different ways. She shows her love by giving more cares and attentions to Owen. On the last scene, she proves that she can take care of Owen and protect him, Abby kills all of Owen's enemy at the pool.

Living in men domination, women usually are trapped in taking their roles. Woman is traditionally defined by their roles as daughters, wives, and mother. But in *Let Me In* movie, Abby has no parent on the present day, but as a kid Abby is defined by the role as a daughter. In the story, Abby becomes the daughter of a stranger man who always helps and takes care of her. But, on the other side, Abby lives with no rules, where she can choose anything in her life, because she is not human. Abby is a vampire where there is nobody can control her. Abby is an immortal creature, so her ages is no more predicted even her body looks like 12 years old kid. She is a kid with a grown up sense and feeling, and she really wants someone to be loved, and she finds Owen. This is her role, as a daughter of a stranger man and she acts as Owen's girl friend.

4. Conclusion

Based on the analysis the writer has done, it can be drawn some conclusions as follow:

- a. Firstly, in this *Let Me In* movie, Mat Reeves wants to illustrate how women are subordinated and exploited in patriarchal society. It is based on the reality in the Abby's life that woman's rights become number two after men. On Every woman's activity, men are number one but even sometimes Abby tries to become number one because she is not a human and has the strength.
- b. Secondly, in this *Let Me In* movie, Mat Reeves wants to say that women's right is not given, but it must be struggled for. It can be seen from Abby's condition where she always struggles to keep her relationship and also her love on Owen.
- c. Thirdly, in this *Let Me In* movie, Mat Reeves wants to describe that in woman's participation that must be some balance transaction between men and women. On this movie, Abby tries to follow on every Owen's activity, this is supposes Abby are being accepted by Owen.
- d. This movie contains many facts that are revealed by Reeves which reflect woman's position, woman's role, woman's right, and woman's participation in leading her Abby's life as a vampire. But there are no cruelty, oppression, exploitation, and violence toward woman

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